(b) if so, the status of the sanction, total amount, the estimated cost and the feasibility report, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic survey for a new BG rail line from Dangri to Saikhowaghat (Dhola) has been completed in Nov. 2000. As per the survey report, the cost of construction of this 5.683 km. long line has been assessed as Rs. 15.37 cr. with a negative rate of return. In view of the unremunerative nature of the line and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to take up the project.

Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh Rail Link

2202. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work on Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh rail link project;

(b) the reasons for slow progress on the project, which was sanctioned way back in 1993-94; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to complete the project at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) In Phase I, work has been taken up from Lanjigarh Road to Bhavanipatna (31 km) where earthwork and bridge works are in progress. Railway are facing resource constraint. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources.

Biotechnological breakthroughs for medicines

2203. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any breakthroughs have been made in the field of biotechnology since January, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the same would help, in any manner, to produce cost-effective and safe medicines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?